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No. 31, l. 6, *wenn* should be *wann*. Letters have been dropped in No. 31, l. 1 and No. 40, l. 1. No. 125 should have been printed as two stanzas, not one. At the end of the first line of p. 17 there should be a comma instead of a period.

B. J. Vos.

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*Écrivains français en Hollande dans la première moitié du XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle.* By GUSTAVE COHEN. Paris: Champion, 1920. Pp. 756.

This dissertation makes an important contribution to the study of French influence abroad. M. Cohen has carried on most extensive researches in Holland, utilizing particularly the recently published sources for the history of the University of Leyden, and has brought out clearly that long before the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes French ideas were entering Holland through the presence there of French writers belonging to various professions and by no means exclusively calvinistic. He first discusses Jean de Schelandre, a soldier-poet, known as the author of *Tyr et Sidon*. The documents he has discovered concern rather his older brother Robert, captain in the service of the United Provinces, but it is reasonable to accept the statement of Colletet that Jean also took part in the war. This gives M. Cohen an opportunity not only to study in detail the poems of Schelandre that have to do with the conflict between the Dutch and the Spaniards, but also to describe the life of French mercenaries in the Low Countries during the early part of the century.

The second division of the work is devoted to scholars and students who went from France to the University of Leyden. From its foundation this institution was a center of propagation of French ideas. Two of its original faculty of eight were Frenchmen. Among its distinguished professors were, in theology, Daneau, Du Jon, Rivet; in law, Doneau; in philology, J. J. Scaliger and Claude Saumaize.<sup>1</sup> The direction of its garden was confided to a French botanist. Among its many French students were

<sup>1</sup>The two last were under no obligation to teach. A similar arrangement has been recently made at the University of Michigan and called an experiment in education.

J. L. Guez de Balzac and Théophile de Viau.<sup>2</sup> It is in this part of the book that M. Cohen makes his chief contribution to the subject he treats. The sketches he gives of various personalities, of Clusius and Saumaize, for instance, are thoroughly interesting, as are his descriptions of university manners.

The third and largest division concerns Descartes. Here there is little that is new apart from the publication of the contract for printing the *Discours de la méthode* and a power of attorney signed by Descartes in 1641. M. Cohen frankly admits that he has not added much to the monumental *Œuvres de Descartes* of MM. Adam and Tannery, but he makes the plea that the latter work, on account of its size, is largely inaccessible to the general public and to many scholars. This explanation would justify a brief résumé of the older treatise, but not the 329 pages which M. Cohen devotes to the task, unless his readers, unlike Descartes, suffer from "la superstition du volume dans tous les sens du mot" (p. 311).

But while a shorter book would have been more effective, even more scholarly, one must not disregard it because one-half of it contains much that is not new. It gives the only general account in existence of the subject treated and must be consulted for information about many individual authors.<sup>3</sup> An extensive index of proper names, so often unfortunately lacking in dissertations, adds much to its usefulness. As *pièces justificatives* two long poems by Schelandre and the plan of his epic, the *Stuartide*, have been reproduced, also the *Discours politique* of J. L. G. de Balzac. The book is well printed and handsomely illustrated. Among the portraits are five of Descartes, one of them a first draft of Frans Hals's famous painting. A sequel, which brings the study of French writers in Holland down to the end of the seventeenth century, is now in preparation and will be awaited with interest.

H. CARRINGTON LANCASTER.

<sup>2</sup>M. Cohen thinks it possible that both of them may have gone to Holland two or three years before their matriculation in 1615.

<sup>3</sup>The only omission I note is that of Jean d'Espagne, who once lived in Holland and who published theological treatises there in 1639 and 1640. On pages 302, 303 M. Cohen makes a startling excursion into American geography. The Pilgrim Fathers, it seems, "débarquent dans la baie d'Hudson(!), au cap Cod et y(!) bâtissent New-Plymouth."